

From: Bob Ruddy
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 5:15pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern,

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

More importantly, the proposed settlement does nothing to correct Microsoft's previous actions. There are no provisions redress their previous abuses or compensate the affected parties. This, in my opinion, goes against the very foundation of law.

The provisions within the settlement only formalize the status quo in their strictest interpretation and at worst increase the monopoly power of Microsoft. None of the provisions effectively prohibit Microsoft from abusing its monopoly position in the operating system market. This is especially important in view of the seriousness of Microsoft's past transgressions. If a person or organization is able to commit illegal acts, benefit from those acts, and then receive as a punishment instructions not to commit those acts again, there is no incentive to follow those instructions. That is not justice.

While the Court's desire that a settlement be reached quickly is understandable, it is wrong to approve an unjust settlement merely for the sake of expediency.

Sincerely,

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